

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10-17, and 19-26 are presented for consideration. Claims 9 and 18 were previously cancelled. No claim is currently amended. No matter is added.

Claim 19 was rejected under U.S.C. § 101 as being rejected to non-statutory subject matter for reciting a carrier wave. Claim 19 has been amended to remove any recitation of a carrier wave.

Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8, 10-11, 13, 15, 17, and 20-23 are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Star Micronics.

Claims 3, 5, 12, 14, 25, and 26 are currently rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Micronics.

Specifically, the Office Action shows a search result (Reference V) which lists several printers, including printer TSP800. The Office Action explains that following this link led a document (Reference W) describing a printer driver (update?) suitable for use in several printers, including model TSP800. Finally, the Office Action asserts that printer model TSP800 is listed "on the last page of reference U", which is noted as having a publication date of December 31, 2000.

Applicants respectfully point out that the copy of Reference U provided by the current Office Action consists of only two pages, and that the second page (i.e. "the last page") shows only contact information for the Electronics Products Division, of Star Micronics Co., LTD, and makes no mention of printer model TSP800, or any other specific printer.

Nonetheless, Applicants respectfully note that the actual document upon which all current claim rejections are based is Reference W, and Reference W shows a publication date 2002. This suggests that Reference W describes a driver software update for use in several pre-existing printers. Nonetheless, since the filing date of the present Application (December 13, 2001) predates the publication date of Reference W, Applicants respectfully put forth that Reference W is not proper prior art.

However, to remove any possibility of contention , Applicants further submit herewith a certified translation of the present Application's priority document (Foreign Application 2000-390421) to perfect its priority filing date of December 22,

2000. Since the perfected priority filing date of the present Application predates that of Reference U (i.e. the earliest cited Star Micronics reference), Applicants respectfully re-submit that the Star Micronics reference is not proper prior art.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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